



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NEWPORT PAGNELL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1969



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for the year
1969

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR P. MASON

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN - COUNCILLOR S.J. MORLEY

COUNCILLORS

A.A. CLAY
W.W. FINLOW

G.W. GRIFFIN
H. HUGHES
A.R. WILDS

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF:

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DR. P. LAVIS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for the Borough of Buckingham, the Urban Districts of Bleckley and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Buckingham, Newport Pagnell and Winslow, Area Medical Officer for North Bucks. and Divisional School M.O. for the North Bucks. Division and the Buckingham and Winslow Districts.)

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DR. SUSAN HETHERINGTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING MANAGER

R. PICKFORD, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I. (To July, 1969)

S.R. BAYLIS, M.A.P.H.I., Meat and Food Inspector,
Cert. S.I.B., National Cert. Building (From Nov.)

Council Offices,
Lovat Bank,
Silver Street,
Newport Pagnell

May, 1970.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1969.

The value of an Annual Report is twofold: to record facts in a permanent form and to highlight any important relevant matter to make the Council, the public, or the Department of Health aware of such a matter.

The value of the facts herein recorded (in terms of vital statistics, causes of death, notifications of infectious diseases) is doubtful as the numbers involved are too small to indicate trends or any peculiar local conditions. In addition the accuracy of some of the figures is such that too much should not be concluded from them. More systematic and useful recording methods are being developed and should prove more useful in the coming years.

Newport Pagnell has been singularly free from serious health hazards in the past, and those that have arisen have been quickly dealt with adequately. It is pertinent to remind Members that this state of affairs is likely to be threatened in the future and the Department will be involved in a greater range of activities more frequently.

A start was made by Mr. Pickford on improving food hygiene, but unfortunately he resigned at the end of July, 1969. Mr. Baylis your new Inspector took up his position on November 1st and will continue to pay especial regard to food hygiene.

I must thank the Council and the Public Health Committee for the interest they always show in Public Health work.

I am your obedient servant

P. LAVIS

Medical Officer of Health

NEWPORT PAGNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1969

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>
Area (in acres)	3,432	3,432
Number of Inhabited Houses	2,165	2,117
Population	6,020	5,700
Rateable Value	£295,907	£286,280
Rate Per Pound	13/3	12/4
Product of ld. rate	£1192	£1156

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

Legitimate (Males)	66	68
Legitimate (Females)	44	39
Illegitimate (Males)	4	2
Illegitimate (Females)	3	4
Still births	0	1
Birth rate per 1,000 pop. (Adjusted)	20.0	20.4
Birth rate per 1,000 pop. (England and Wales)	16.3	16.9

Deaths

Males	48	49
Females	46	50
Death rate per 1,000 pop. (Adjusted)	8.7	8.1
Death rate per 1,000 pop. (England & Wales)	11.9	11.9
Infant Mortality (Deaths under one year per 1,000 births)	9	NIL
Infant Mortality (England and Wales)	18.0	18.0

Principal Causes of Death:

	<u>1969</u>			<u>1968</u>		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Cancer: Lung, Bronchus	2	0	2	4	0	4
Other	4	5	9	4	7	11
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	9	16	7	7	14
Heart Diseases	10	13	23	13	13	26
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	0	1	1	3	4
Pneumonia	9	10	19	14	13	27
Bronchitis	6	2	8	2	2	4
Accidents	4	1	5	0	1	1
All Other Causes	5	6	11	4	4	8
TOTAL			48 46 94	49 50 99		

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS:

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>
Measles	2	1
Whooping Cough	-	1
Tuberculosis	1	1
Scarlet Fever	1	-
Salmonella	2	-
Tetanus	1	-

SECTION B

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

1. AMBULANCE SERVICE

Administered by the Bucks. County Council, main North Bucks. Station at Bletchley, with a sub-station at Newport Pagnell.

2. HOSPITALS

Under the Oxford Regional Hospital Board, General Hospitals at Bedford, Northampton and Aylesbury. Outpatient facilities available at Wolverton and Bletchley. Newport Pagnell - Westbury (Maternity) and Renny Lodge (Geriatric).

3. PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

Northampton.

4. HEALTH VISITOR

Miss S. Poole, Lovat Bank, Silver Street (Newport Pagnell 611251 Ext. 39).

Area Superintendant: Mrs. D.F. Marett at the Area Health Offices, Bletchley (Telephone: Bletchley 4701).

5. DISTRICT NURSES / MIDWIVES

Work with General Practitioners. Area Superintendant: Mrs. O.M. Riley, at the Area Health Office, Bletchley.

6. SOCIAL WORKERS

(Medical, Welfare, Blind and Mental Health) at Area Health Office, Bletchley. Area Social Worker: Mr. P.K. Smith.

7. HOME HELP SERVICE

Area Organiser: Mrs. E.N. Franklin at the Area Health Office, Bletchley.

8. CHILD HEALTH CLINIC

Congregational School room, High Street, first and third Wednesdays in each month at 2.00 p.m.

9. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Administered from the Area Health Office. This includes arrangements for examination of pupils in accordance with the Education Act 1944 ascertainment of handicapped pupils and carrying out or arranging treatment. The child guidance and dental clinics under this service are situated at Whalley Drive, Bletchley. Vaccination and immunisation against Diptheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Polio and Tuberculosis is undertaken.

10. INDUSTRIAL UNIT

Whaddon Way, Bletchley.

11. CONTRACEPTION ADVICE

Weekly clinics held at Whalley Drive Health Clinic, Bletchley, by the Family Planning Association. (By appointment, Telephone: Bletchley 2285).

12. MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCIL

Interviews held at Whalley Drive Health Clinic. (Appointments - Telephone: Soulbury 252).

13. CHILDRENS DEPARTMENT

Area Child Care Officer - Miss J. Walker (Telephone: Bletchley 4701).

14. ACCOMMODATION FOR ELDERLY

The Green, Newport Pagnell.

REPORT OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR

1969

INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL REMARKS

Your previous Inspector left at the end of July and I took up my duties at the beginning of November, 1969. Because of the break in continuity less routine inspections have been carried out.

Up till now Newport Pagnell and the area around it has been a pleasant oasis remote from the hurry and scurry of the Midlands and the London area. Public health problems have been remediable and localised.

The slum clearance programme is virtually at an end although there remains the problem of improving the older houses of the town.

The construction of the motorway heralded a new era and the improved accessibility of the area has attracted industry and the planners.

The next ten years are likely to be the most momentous in the long history of this town and I am very happy to have taken up my appointment on the eve of the Milton Keynes development which will entail many matters of great public health significance.

S. R. BAYLIS

HOUSING (other than Housing Management)

Houses erected post war by Local Authority	313
Houses erected by Local Authority during 1969	Nil
Houses erected by private enterprise during 1969	58
Houses demolished or closed (Sec. 17 - Housing Act 1957)	20
Houses demolished or closed (Sec. 42 - Housing Act 1957)	Nil
Improvement Grants (Discretionary) since inception of scheme	85
Standard Grants since inception of scheme	112
Improvement Grants (Discretionary) approved during 1969	5
Standard Grants approved during 1969	16

PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Inspections:

During the year the following visits were made:

Public Health Inspections (including Meat and Food)	632
Housing Inspections	182
Total visits of all kinds	1094

The year has been one of consolidation after a period of great activity concerned mainly with premises coming under the Food and Drugs Act and the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.

Refuse Collection:

By the end of the year, the paper sack system was in use at about two-fifths of the premises in the town. The public health advantages of this system are self-evident and in due course this system will be extended to the rest of the Urban District.

Rodent Control:

During the year 280 properties were visited by the Rodent Operator to private property, factories, shops; and Local Authority sewers and property.

The service engages one man three days a week and his constant inspections are essential in keeping the rat population to the minimum.

Flood Relief, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal:

At the end of the year the River Lovat was being dredged and plans were made for a new relief sewer in the Wolverton Road area which is expected to be commenced at the beginning of next year. The sewage disposal works are adequate, and the usual standard of the effluent is within recognised standards.

Noise and Atmospheric Pollution:

I couple these two matters together because noise is indeed a form of atmospheric pollution and to make a further point, atmospheric pollution is not only created by emissions of smoke and dust from industrial furnaces. Any emission of gases or particles of matter from business premises can cause a nuisance.

A great deal of time has been spent in making sure that the atmosphere in Newport Pagnell is the best that can be achieved, and a previously unsatisfactory factory boiler and flue installation has been replaced by more modern equipment.

It is hoped that premises which are at present unsatisfactory will not prove so for long and that by perusing plans submitted and applying legislation already in existence, future new industrial and commercial plants in the town will not mar the prosperity they bring by also bringing added nuisances, which diminish the quality of life for everyone.

Supervision and Inspection of Food

People are quite properly concerned that the food they buy is wholesome and has been prepared under hygienic conditions.

Prepared meats and pies rapidly deteriorate even under proper storage conditions and the importance of the proper handling of these foods has been impressed on local retailers.

Ice Cream:

There are 14 registered retailers. Because of legislation with stringent requirements and the demise of back street factories not meeting these requirements, this commodity is no longer the health hazard it once was. It has been said that the price of liberty is eternal vigilance. Certainly in this as in all public health matters, eternal vigilance is the price of freedom from disease.

Milk Supply:

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the whole County excluding the Boroughs of High Wycombe and Slough. As such, the programme of sampling of all food and drink including milk is related to the County as a whole and not to any specific area. There are 3 registered distributors of milk and no registered dairy premises (other than farms) in the District.

311 samples were taken from the area supplying Newport Pagnell, analysis revealed a very satisfactory standard.

No case of brucella abortus has been reported and no samples of raw milk have been taken by U.D.C. officers.

Water Supply:

The water supply is wholly provided by the Bucks. Water Board and the supply to Newport Pagnell comes from the following sources: Sandhouse, Battlesden, Grafham (via Amptill), Foxcote, Ash Hill and the Mid-Bucks supply. The latter is itself a mixture of waters from the Mill End, Pann Mill, Bourne End and Marlow sources.

Chemical and bacteriological samples are regularly taken by the Water Board. An additional check on the bacteriological purity is by samples taken by the Public Health Inspector which are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service. All samples taken were satisfactory and the supply was sufficient.

No fluoridation of water supplies is undertaken by the Board. The natural fluoride content is less than 0.1 parts per million.

All the dwellings in the town (estimated 2165) with an estimated population of 6,020 are supplied with mains water. Only one property is known not to have an internal supply.-10-

Food Premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

The following information is required to be included in the Report by the Department of Health and Social Security.

As far as I am aware from the inspections I have carried out, all premises in the town now comply with the Act. For this satisfactory state of affairs I must give credit to the previous Inspector who put a great deal of time into clearing up the deficiencies which previously existed.

	Total	Fitted to comply with Reg. 16*	To which Reg. 19 applies+	Fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakers and cake shops	3	3	3	3
Butchers	5	5	5	5
Confectioners	6	6	6	6
Distributors of Milk	3	3	3	3
Factory Canteens	4	4	4	4
Fish Shops (Wet & Fried)	1	1	1	1
Food Factories	1	1	1	1
Greengrocers	4	4	4	4
Grocers	13	13	13	13
Licensed Premises	14	14	14	14
Restaurants & Hotels	3	3	3	3
Sale of Ice Cream	14	14	14	14
TOTAL	71	71	71	71

* Regulation 16 relates to the provision of personal washing facilities

+ Regulation 19 related to the provision of facilities for the washing of equipment and food.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963:

The whole point of this Act is to extend to people at work in offices and shops the benefits conferred by the Factories Act to industrial workers.

Working conditions in Newport Pagnell in premises within the scope of the Act are in the main quite congenial and the enforcement of the Act generally relates to minor infringements.

The cold spell immediately before Christmas did however find a few employers unprepared and for a few days several premises were not achieving the required minimum temperature of 60.8°F. Co-operation was forthcoming and the affected premises were soon back to normal.

The table below shows details of registrations and inspections:

Class of Premises	No. of Premises registered during the year	Total number of premises registered at end of yr.	No. of Premises receiving a detailed inspection in 1969
Offices	2	21	6
Retail Shops	6	52	20
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	1	-
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	-	5	3
Fuel Storage Depots	-	1	-
TOTAL	8	80	29

Total number of visits of all kinds by the Public Health Inspector to registered premises under the Act = 51.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1961 as required
by the Department of Health and Social Security

Part 1 of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	6	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	25	4	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	31	4	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found:-				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

No outworkers were notified in the August list required by Section 133 and there has been no evidence of cases of default in sending lists to this Council. There have been no prosecutions for failure to supply lists. No instances of work in unwholesome premises arose for action under Section 134.

HOUSING MANAGEMENT

2,3 and 4 Bedroomed Accommodation:

During the year 61 applications were received but the size of the waiting list was reduced by rehousing 14 applicants and by omitting from the new list 36 applicants who did not re-register. The list is further reduced by applications withdrawn for a variety of reasons.

Following the re-organisation of the Housing List, applicants are now placed in the following categories:-

Group	Category	At 31.12 69 Number of Applicants
A	Medical Cases	4
B	Unsatisfactory Houses	9
C	General Applicants	27
D	Unavoidably left Newport Pagnell	8
E	Servicemen and applicants from away	12
F	Engaged couples	5
G	Industrial workers	7
H	Existing tenants wishing to transfer	15
TOTAL		<hr/> 87 (1968 = 92) <hr/>

Old Persons Accommodation:

At the end of 1969 the waiting list contained the names of 32 applicants for one bedroomed accommodation (1968 = 29) and 42 applicants on the bed-sitter list (1968 = 43).

During the year there were 10 new applicants for 1 bedroomed accommodation and 12 new applicants for bed-sitter accommodation. 6 applicants for 1 bedroomed dwellings and 5 applicants for bed-sitters were rehoused. Notwithstanding new applicants the size of these lists remained much the same due to applications withdrawn for a variety of reasons.

Annual Number of Relets (no houses were built during 1969)

The number of houses, flats etc. becoming available for reletting each year is very small in relation to the Housing Stock of 387. This means that the demands of applicants on the waiting list can only be met slowly, but on the other hand it does emphasize the stability of employment in the area.

Type of Accommodation	1966	1967	1968	1969
2 - 4 bedroomed	9	16	10	14
1 bedroomed	2	4	4	6
Bed-sitters	-	3	2	5
TOTAL	11	23	16	25

Exchanges and Transfers

In addition 4 existing tenants exchanged tenancies with each other; and 4 existing tenants were allowed to transfer to other Council property becoming vacant.

Location of Accommodation

	Bed-sit accommodation											
	1 bed. bungalow	bed-sit gr. fl flat	bed-sit 1st fl flat	1 bed. gr. fl flat	2 bed. gr. fl flat	1 bed. 1st fl flat	3 bed. 1st fl flat	3 bed. 2nd fl flat	2 bedroomed houses	3 bedroomed houses	4 bedroomed houses	
Windsor Avenue	6								14	5		
Bury Close	5											
Queens Avenue	6								18	23		
Almond Close	18	1										
Cherry Road	4	2							4	25	4	
Annesley Road										32	2	
Baldwin Crescent										4	2	
Beech Road										4		
Carrington Road										9		
The Grove										20		
Purcel Drive										14		
Whaddon Road										27		
Line Close									4			
Balmoral Court		2		3			3	3				
Buckingham Court		2		3			3	3				
Sandringham Court		2		3			3	3				
Whitethorns										11		
Linford Lane										16		
Deal House		2	2	2		2						
Dover House				3		3						
Hastings House		1	2		1	2						
Hythe House				3		3						
Ronney House		2	2	2		2						
Rye House				3		3						
Tickford Street	16									4		
London Road										14		
TOTAL	22	36	11	6	22	1	15	9	9	40	208	8

GRAND TOTAL = 387 dwellings owned by the Newport Pagnell U.D.C.

